

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF TRING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE MARKET HOUSE, HIGH STREET, TRING ON MONDAY 21st MARCH 2011 AT 7.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors: Mrs R. L. Ransley, Town Mayor (in the Chair)
J. S. Allan
B. F. Batchelor
Mrs M.V. Booth
Mrs P. J. Hearn
N. A. Hollinghurst
Mrs D. M. Rance

Also Present: Mr C.R. Westwood, Acting Clerk of the Council
3 members of the public

15897. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Harris, James and Townsend.

15898. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Mrs Hearn declared a personal interest in Planning Applications as she was a substitute member of DBC's Development Control Committee.

15899. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21st February 2011 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

15900. **MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE MINUTES**

Vide minute 15815 – Forge Car Park.

A letter had been received from Councillor Chapman stating that consideration had been given to the Town Council's request but that the proposals made would not solve the problems highlighted. The letter had been copied to all Councillors. Councillor Hollinghurst said that it was a disappointing and confusing response. The changes proposed were reasonable and designed to help towards the patronage of the car park, particularly by the elderly. Following discussion it was agreed to refer the response to the next meeting of the Buildings and Assets Committee with a recommendation that the Town Council should not accept the response from Dacorum Borough Council, but should continue to press for the changes initially proposed.

Action Acting Town Clerk.

15901. **MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

A copy of a letter sent to Dacorum Borough Council on behalf of Tring Branch of the Royal British Legion had been sent to the Town Council. RBL had asked for parking charges in Dolphin Square car park to be suspended on Remembrance Sunday but this request had been refused. The Town Council was asked to support the request and to put pressure on the Borough Council to reverse its decision.

It was agreed to consider the contents of this letter at the next Council meeting.

Notification of the Spirit of Dacorum Historic Vehicle tour to take place on the 1st May 2011 had been received. Vehicles will leave the Market car park from 9.30am. Full details of the event are available from the Town Clerk.

The Open Space magazine for spring 2011 was available from the Town Clerk.

A copy of the Aldbury Parish Plan 2011 had been received from Aldbury Parish Council.

Notification an Information meeting regarding switchover to Digital Television to be held at Victoria Hall on Thursday 24th March from 1.30pm to 3.30pm.

15902. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

It was **RESOLVED** that Standing Orders be suspended in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 67 so that members of the public might speak.

Mrs Godfrey of 9 Windmill Way was present to object to Planning application 4/00360/11 at 7 Windmill Way. She referred to the side and front elevations, and the proposed roof line to the upper storey extension for an attic room, and said that they would be out of character with the other semi detached houses in the road. The development would set an unwanted precedent and the house would be out of proportion with its surroundings.

Mr Graham of 7 Windmill Way was present and spoke briefly in favour of his application.

Tim Amsden urged the Council to refuse the installation of re-cycling bins in Church Square which had been given to the town in 1900 and was a focal point in the town centre, a civic space and a public asset. The square had been redesigned 20 years ago and the street furniture specially selected for cohesion. There was no space in Church Square to accommodate these bins and it would be a retrograde step to install them.

Mr Amsden also referred to parking in the forge car park and suggested that the lower section should have no length of stay restrictions and should be a 'free for all'.

15903. **STANDING COMMITTEES**

a. Planning Committee

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 7th March 2011, as circulated, be received and adopted.

b. Finance & Policy Committee

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee held on 7th March 2011, as circulated, be received and adopted.

15904. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Council considered the planning applications, which had been referred by Dacorum Borough Council for observation of this authority. It was decided to request that the Local Planning Authority take account of the following comments when determining the under-mentioned applications:

4/00360/11/FHA First floor side and rear extension, pitched roof to rear extension at 7 Windmill Way for Mr I. Graham

Tring Town Council has no objection to this application, but the Council draws attention to the concerns of the neighbour regarding loss of privacy and loss of light.

4/00389/11/FUL Alterations to entrance including new door and roof lanterns entrance area at 36 Frogmore Street for Aldkew Ltd.

Tring Town Council has no objection to this application

4/00393/11/FHA First floor side extension and single storey rear extension at 71 Grove Park for Brian Branwhite Surveyors

Tring Town Council has no objection to this application, but the Council is concerned that the extension is on the boundary line.

**LIST OF DECISIONS BY DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL IN RESPECT OF
RECENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

PLAN REF. NO.

- 4/00015/11/FUL Conditional permission for change of use of barber shop and take-away to one single restaurant unit at 37 and 38 Frogmore Street for Mr O. Koseoglu
- 4/00016/11/ADV Conditional permission for two illuminated fascia signs at 37 and 38 Frogmore Street for Mr O. Koseoglu
- *4/00081/11/FHA Refusal for first floor rear extension at 15A Albert Street for Mr & Mrs P. Brown
- 4/00093/11/LBC Conditional permission for enlargement of ground floor rear kitchen, removal of internal wall and replacement window and doors at 26 Park Street for Mr S.Gatehouse
- 4/00109/11/FHA Conditional permission for single storey rear extension, first floor side extension at 2 Highfield Road for Mr K. Vallentine
- 4/00125/11/TCA Conditional permission for works to trees in the conservation area at 38 Park Road for Mrs Thompson
- *4/00174/11/TPO Conditional permission for works to trees at Highfield House, Upper Tring Park, Wigginton for Mr R. Deepröse
- *4/00185/11/AGD Refusal for agricultural storage barn at Greenacres, Cholesbury Road, Wigginton for E. and M. Lake

The decisions were noted.

15905. **LICENSING ACT 2003**

No applications had been submitted after issue of the agenda.

15906. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

It was **RESOLVED** that the accounts circulated at the meeting for the period ending 21st March 2011 be approved and certified for payment.

15907. **FAIRTRADE TOWN STATUS FOR TRING**

The Town Mayor referred to correspondence from Michael Demidecki of the Fairtrade Steering Group for Tring requesting a renewal of the Town Council's support. Following discussion it was

RESOLVED

To support Fairtrade and, whenever possible, to serve Fairtrade coffee and tea in its offices, at its meetings and at its receptions in The Market House'. It was agreed that signs be put on the table at receptions/ meetings that Fairtrade products were being served.

It was agreed that the resolution continues in force and has not been amended. Tring Town Council continues to serve Fairtrade products to their staff and at all receptions/ meetings in The Market House.

Action Acting Town Clerk

15908. **FIELDS IN TRUST: THE QUEEN ELIZABETH 11 FIELDS CHALLENGE**

The Town Mayor referred to the correspondence circulated with the agenda. Following discussion it was agreed that the following locations should be nominated as recreational sites to be included in the programme.

- a. Tring Park
- b. Streamside Walk. (Brook Street to Icknield Way)

Action Acting Town Clerk

It was noted that both locations were owned by Dacorum Borough Council who should be informed of the proposal to refer them to Fields in Trust.

Action Acting Town Clerk

15909. **TOWN COUNCIL INSURANCE**

The Town Mayor referred to the correspondence from Zurich Municipal circulated with the agenda. It was

RESOLVED

To approve the renewal premium of £6328.72 and to renew the Town Council's insurance with effect from 1st April 2011 in accordance with the Policy Schedule received from Zurich Municipal.

15910. **ON STREET RE-CYCLING BINS**

Correspondence had been received from Dacorum Borough Council requesting the Town Council's views on the installation of recycling bins in the High Street next to the bus stop (Church Square) and in Dolphin Square. Details of the proposed bins had been obtained and circulated.

Following discussion it was agreed that there was no objection to the installation of recycling bins in Dolphin Square, but that they should not be installed in Church Square, which is owned by the Town Council, due to the designs being inappropriate and totally out of keeping with other street furniture installed in the Square.

An alternative location to Church Square should be sought and the Town Council suggested that such an alternative might be Pound Meadow, next to the skatepark. This location was on a footpath linking Station Road to Tesco's and was the location for football matches where plastic bottles would be widely used.

Action Acting Town Clerk.

15911. **LOCALISM BILL**

The Town Mayor said that under the Localism Bill it was necessary for the Town Council to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for Tring at some time in the future, and that Dacorum Borough Council should be informed of the Town Council's intentions. The proposal was agreed.

Action Acting Town Clerk

15912. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

- (i) Councillor Allan said that he had attending the opening event at Tring Museum and an LSP Board meeting in respect of which he had circulated a summary.
- (ii) The Mayor had hosted a visit to Tring by the Mayor of Berkhamsted which included Tring Museum and the Natural History Museum. On the 4th March she had attended the Mayor of Dacorum's reception at Pendley. On the 8th March she had attended the Pepper AGM and had noted that £245k needed to be raised this year being the difference between the Government Grant and running costs. The Mayor had also attended the event at Tring Museum which she said was a credit to the Town.

15913. **TRING YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2ND March 2011 were noted.

It was agreed that the Mayor would write to Xavier Cohen to congratulate him on standing in the recent UKYP elections and gaining over 1400 votes.

Action Town Mayor.

It was noted that it had been reported that the skatepark equipment needed painting and this would be completed during the Easter break. The Town Warden was asked to liaise with Emma Cave to establish what colours were to be used, and to ensure they were appropriate. It was further agreed to inform Emma Cave that lighting of the skatepark should not be considered due to light pollution.

Action Town Warden

It was noted that the ball court at Brook Street was no longer lit as the electricity supply had been tampered with.

15914. **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Batchelor, **SECONDED** by Councillor Mrs Rance and **RESOLVED** that under Section I of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded during the Items in Part II of the agenda for this meeting, because it was likely that publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business or for other special reasons arising from the nature of the business or proceedings.

The meeting ended at 9.12 p.m.

Chairman